

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 6 as follows:

In other words, by using using a certain cartridge 2, and by driving the circuit 1 with a current I until a prefixed voltage V_x is obtained, depending for instance on the dynamics of the A/D conversion equipment 30-29, a driving time T_{p1} is obtained, that can easily be measured by means of a digital counter 29-30 and stored in a memory, for instance in a memory 16 (FIG. 1, 2) located on board the cartridge itself.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 12 as follows:

Afterwards, as the ink in the cartridge 2 is gradually used for printing, by subsequently driving the circuit 1 with a pulse of current I of duration equal to the time T_{p1}, corresponding values of the voltage drop $V_p - V_x$ may be measured, which will give a true representation of the pattern of the level of the ink as they are no longer affected by the influences of the parasitic parameters, now automatically compensated for by the value of T_{p1}. Therefore in this mode of operation of the circuit 1, just described, the voltage drop on the terminals of the resistance-Rcapacitor 13 is truly representative of the level of ink contained in the cartridge 2.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 10, line 9 as follows:

step 3): the counter 29-30 is used to measure the driving time T_p used to reach a voltage V_x that is fixed in advance and suitable for the characteristics of the converting/measuring device 30-29 used for digitizing and measuring the voltages;

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 11, line 1 as follows:

step 6): the detecting circuit 1 is powered with a pulse of current I of duration equal to the driving time T_p, taken from the memory 16, and the voltage drop $V_p - V_x$ on the terminals of the resistance-Rcapacitor 13 is measured, before being converted by the converter 30, connected to the control unit or CPU;

Please amend the paragraph starting at on page 11, line 6 as follows:

step 7): the measurement of $V_p V_x$ is associated with the temperature of 20.degree., in such a way as to obtain the corresponding value of the level of ink, converted according to a suitable scale;

Please amend the paragraph starting at on page 11, line 11 as follows:

step 9): the cartridge 2 is replaced when a voltage drop $V_p V_x$ is detected on the ~~resistance R_s~~ ~~capacitor C₃~~ equal to or less than a previously calculated limit value, indicative of a situation of cartridge empty.